

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
EASTERN DIVISION

MALEEHA S. AHMAD, et al.,)
)
 Plaintiffs,)
)
 v.) No. 4:17-CV-2455-CDP
)
 CITY OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI,)
)
 Defendant.)

PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION HEARING
VOLUME 2

BEFORE THE HONORABLE CATHERINE D. PERRY
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

OCTOBER 19, 2017

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1 (Proceedings commenced at 12:03 p.m.)

2 THE COURT: All right. Lieutenant Sachs, you can
3 resume the stand. And, Mr. Relys, can you tell me how you
4 pronounce your last name?

5 MR. RELYS: Relys.

6 THE COURT: Relys. Okay.

7 MR. RELYS: Yes, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: I keep look at the spelling and then
9 having trouble with it.

10 MR. RELYS: That's all right. You're not the only
11 one.

12 THE COURT: Yeah.

13 THE WITNESS: Good afternoon, Judge.

14 THE COURT: Good afternoon. And, Lieutenant Sachs,
15 you understand you're still under oath from yesterday;
16 correct?

17 THE WITNESS: Yes, ma'am.

18 THE COURT: All right. You may proceed.

19 **TIMOTHY SACHS,**

20 HAVING BEEN PREVIOUSLY DULY SWORN, WAS EXAMINED AND TESTIFIED
21 AS FOLLOWS:

22 DIRECT EXAMINATION

23 (continued from 10/18/2017)

24 BY MR. RELYS:

25 Q Good morning, Lieutenant.

1 A Again, it stands for Civil Disobedience Team. It's
2 tasked with handling any events of civil unrest, protests,
3 managing protests, that sort of thing.

4 Q Okay. Have you been involved, in your capacity as a
5 police officer, in the police's response to the protests that
6 have emerged since the Jason Stockley verdict?

7 A Yes, sir.

8 Q All right. And were you involved on the day of that
9 verdict, on September 15th, 2017?

10 A Yes, I was.

11 Q Okay. We've talked a little bit in here over the past
12 couple days about an incident that occurred on that day, sort
13 of involving some buses?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q Were you involved in that incident?

16 A Yes, I was.

17 Q All right. Tell us briefly what your involvement was in
18 the bus incident.

19 A Our involvement -- we were staged at our Police Academy,
20 which is located on Tucker, just south of Clark. A crowd had
21 amassed at the intersection of Market and Tucker following the
22 announcement of the verdict, and they -- they had been there
23 for a considerable amount of time. Eventually, that crowd
24 conducted some marches and eventually ended up marching south
25 on Tucker to our location at the Police Academy. We had four

1 or -- I think, oh, we had all four CDT teams at that location.
2 And what developed eventually was kind of just a standoff. We
3 had some CDT lines formed facing to the north. We also had
4 some CDT lines formed facing to the west. And each group had
5 a group of protestors in front of those lines engaging them.

6 Q Okay. And you said there was a standoff?

7 A What I would describe as a standoff, basically, yes.

8 Q How is it -- once it was determined there was a standoff,
9 how is that -- what action was taken?

10 A I consulted with the incident commander, and we were both
11 in agreement that, you know, the best way to de-escalate the
12 situation was just to pull our officers out of the area.
13 While it was a standoff, tensions -- you could read that
14 tensions were getting a little higher. So it was our
15 determination, "Let's pull our officers out of the area and
16 hopefully de-escalate it."

17 Q Okay. And incident commander is who?

18 A Lieutenant Colonel Jerry Leyshock.

19 Q All right. And so the decision was made to move those
20 buses?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And did that -- did that occur?

23 A We attempted to. We loaded two buses up with our CDT
24 officers, and it was immediate. Even before all of our
25 officers were on the bus, as soon as we broke our lines down,

1 the group immediately surrounded both buses, and both buses
2 were unable to move.

3 Q Okay. Were the buses -- were there any -- besides
4 surrounding the buses, were there any other acts of violence
5 from the crowd?

6 A Yes. They immediately -- several suspects began throwing
7 rocks and bottles at the buses. I put out multiple
8 descriptions of individuals that I observed myself throwing
9 rocks at the buses, throwing rocks at the officers as they
10 attempted to get on the bus. It became very violent very
11 quick.

12 Q And where were you during this?

13 A I was on Clark, kind of bouncing back and forth between
14 the west and east side. I'm sorry. Tucker. Kind of bouncing
15 back and forth between the west side and east side of the
16 street.

17 Q Okay. We've had -- we've had previous witnesses -- well,
18 I guess one other witness, Lieutenant Sachs, described his
19 location, which was inside the Police Academy building.

20 A I believe they were, yes.

21 Q You were not -- you were not with them?

22 A No. I was down on the street.

23 Q You were down on the street. Okay. So you witnessed --
24 you personally witnessed while you were down on the street
25 people throwing rocks and bottles?